

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Communications system [(20)] for a motor vehicle [(1)] for transmission of information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] from a sending control device to a receiving control device, the communications system [(20)] comprising an interface [(160)] for input or output of the information relating to operation of the motor vehicle [(1)], wherein communications is possible by way of ~~an~~ the interface [(160)] by means of a protocol [(60)] which comprises an operation field [(61)] for identification of the task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].
2. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 1, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises a data field [(63)] with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].
3. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises an ID field [(62)] for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].
4. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises at most the operation field [(61)], the data field [(63)] and the ID field [(62)].
5. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~, wherein the operation field [(61)] comprises information which indicates whether the protocol [(60)] relates to a message to be sent or a received message.
6. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein the operation field [(61)] comprises an information field for identifying a message to be sent or a received message.

7. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 6, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises at most the operation field [(61)], the data field [(63)], the ID field [(62)] and the information field.

8. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 3 ~~one of claims 3 to 7~~, wherein the ID field [(62)] designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] is produced or processed.

9. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the protocol [(60)] does not comprise a designation of the sending control device.

10. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the protocol [(60)] does not comprise a designation of the receiving control device.

11. (Currently Amended) Communications system [(20)] for a motor vehicle [(1)] for transmission of information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] from a sending control device to a receiving control device, the communications system [(20)] comprising a bus system [(24)], wherein the communications system [(20)] comprises an interface [(160)] which is independent of the configuration of the bus system [(24)] for input of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] transmitted by way of the bus system [(24)] and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] to be transmitted by way of the bus system [(24)].

12. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 11, wherein by way of the bus system [(24)] a bus protocol [(60)] is transmitted which is composed essentially of an interface protocol [(60)] of the interface [(160)] and data which are specific to the bus system [(24)].

13. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 12, wherein by way of the bus system [(24)] a bus protocol [(60)] is transmitted which is composed of an interface protocol [(60)] of the interface [(160)] and prefixed data which are specific to the bus system [(24)].

14. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 12 ~~[[or 13]]~~, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises an operation field [(61)] for identification of a task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

15. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 12, ~~13, or 14~~, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises a data field [(63)] with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

16. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 12 to 15~~ claim 12, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises an ID field [(62)] for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

17. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 14 ~~one of claims 14 to 16~~, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises at most the operation field [(61)], the data field [(63)] and the ID field [(62)].

18. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 14 to 17~~ claim 14, wherein the operation field [(61)] comprises information which indicates whether the protocol [(60)] relates to a message to be sent or a received message.

19. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 14 to 16~~ claim 14, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises an information field for identifying a message to be sent or a received message.

20. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in claim 19, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] comprises at most the operation field [(61)], the data field [(63)], the ID field [(62)] and the information field.

21. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 16 to 20~~ claim 16, wherein the ID field [(62)] designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] is produced or processed.

22. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 12 to 21~~ claim 12, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] does not comprise a designation of the sending control device.

23. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of claims 12 to 22~~ claim 12, wherein the interface protocol [(60)] does not comprise a designation of the receiving control device.

24. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise a request for sending of a current value of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

25. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise a prompt for changing the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

26. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise a prompt for confirming a change of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

27. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise an identification of sending of the current value of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

28. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise identification of a restart of a function assigned to information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

29. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the operation field [(61)] as an allowable entry can comprise an identification of an error to be assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

30. (Currently Amended) The communications system [(20)] as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein it comprises an information memory for storage of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

31. (Currently Amended) Communications system [(20)] for a motor vehicle [(1)] for transmission of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] from a first control device to a second control device, the communications system [(20)] comprising an interface [(160)] for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the motor vehicle [(1)], wherein communications is possible by way of the interface [(160)] by means of a protocol [(60)] which comprises an ID field [(62)] for identification of a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)], the contents of the ID field [(62)] being independent of whether transmission takes place from the first control device to the second control device or from the second control device to the first control device.

32. (Currently Amended) Control module for control of a function of the motor vehicle [(1)] and/or for especially optical and/or acoustic output of the information relating to operation of

the vehicle [(1)], the control module comprising an interface [(160)] for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)], wherein communications is possible by way of an interface [(160)], especially only by means of a protocol [(60)] which comprises an operation field [(61)] for identification of the task to be performed by means of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

33. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in claim 32, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises a data field [(631)] with a value for the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

34. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in claim 32 ~~[[or 33]]~~, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises an ID field [(62)] for identification of the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)].

35. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in claim 32, ~~33, or 34~~, wherein the operation field [(61)] comprises information which indicates whether the protocol [(60)] relates to a message to be sent or a received message.

36. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in claim 32, ~~33 or 34~~, wherein the protocol [(60)] comprises an information field for identification of a message to be sent or a received message.

37. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in ~~one of claims 34 to 36~~ claim 34, wherein the ID field [(62)] designates a function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] or from which the information relating to operation of the vehicle [(1)] is produced or processed.

38. (Currently Amended) The control module as claimed in ~~one of claims 32 to 37~~ claim 32, wherein the control module is implemented on a control device, the protocol [(60)] not comprising a designation of the control device.

39. (Currently Amended) Control module for control of a function of the motor vehicle ~~[[1]]~~ or for output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle ~~[[1]]~~, the control module comprising an interface ~~[(160)]~~ for input and/or output of the information relating to operation of the vehicle ~~[[1]]~~, wherein communications is possible by way of an interface ~~[(160)]~~ by means of a protocol ~~[(60)]~~ which comprises an ID field ~~[(62)]~~ for identification of the function which is assigned to the information relating to operation of the vehicle ~~[[1]]~~, the contents of the ID field ~~[(62)]~~ being independent of whether the information from the control module is being sent or received.

40. (Currently Amended) Motor vehicle ~~[[1]]~~, ~~wherein it has~~ comprising a communications system ~~[(20)]~~ as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 31~~ claim 1.

41. (Currently Amended) The motor vehicle as claimed in claim 40, ~~wherein it has~~ comprising a control module as claimed in ~~one of claims 32 to 39~~ claim 32.

42. (Currently Amended) The motor vehicle of claim 40 ~~[[1]]~~, ~~wherein it has~~ comprising a control module as claimed in ~~one of claims 32 to 39~~ claim 32.

43. (New) A method of transmitting information in a motor vehicle through a communication system, the method comprising:

transmitting the information from a sending control device;

receiving the transmitted information in a receiving control device;

wherein:

the information is inputted into and/or outputted by the communication system through an interface by operating a protocol; and

the protocol comprises identifying an operation field, the operation field corresponding to a task to be performed in response to the information.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the protocol further comprises identifying a data field with a value corresponding to the operation field.

45. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the protocol comprises a field indicating whether the protocol relates to inputted and/or outputted information.

46. (New) The method of claim 43, comprising varying a display depending upon the information.

47. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the inputted information relates to a condition of at least one selected from the group consisting of air conditioning, navigation system, music module, telephone module, and acoustic output device.

48. (New) The method of claim, 43, wherein the outputted information relates to a condition of at least one selected from the group consisting of engine rpm, oil pressure, coolant temperature, vehicle tilt, distance to an obstacle, interior temperature, geographical location of the vehicle, vehicle doors, time, telephone book entry, and music title.